

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /081 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7913

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5466

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA CB SA

SUBJ: KHMER IN 29TH GA: DEVELOPMENTS AS OF NOV 26

REF: USUN 5408; USUN 5464; USUN 5465

SUMMARY. NEITHER SIDE MADE ANY PROCEDURAL MOVES IN FIRST DAY OF DEBATE TUESDAY AND WE HEARD NO NEW RUMORS ABOUT INVITATION TO SIHANOUK. AT DAY'S END ALLIES STILL PROJECTED MAJORITY AGAINST PRIORITY. AMENDMENTS BY SAUDI ARABAIN REP BAROODY TO BOTH FRIENDLY AND HOSTILE RESES WERE SUBMITTED TO SECRETARIAT TUESDAY EVENING AND THEY WILL BE NEW FOCUS OF ACTIVITY BY BOTH SIDES. ALLIES MEETING EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING TO ASSESS NEW TACTICAL SITUATION CREATED BY AMENDMENTS. WE ARE INSCRIBED TO SPEAK LATE WEDNESDAY MORNING. VOTE EXPECTED IN EVENING. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MEETING JUST BEFORE KHMER DEBATE OPENED TUESDAY MORNING, ALLIES AGREED THAT WE STILL OBLIGED TO PROJECT MAJORITY VOTE AGAINST PRIORITY. THERE WAS LITTLE CHANGE DETECTED IN VOTING ATTITUDES DURING DAY. WHILE COSPONSORS
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GRATEFUL FOR JAPANESE AND OUR REPORTS OF LAST-MINUTE

EFFORTS, INCLUDING NEW DEMARCHES IN CAPITALS SET IN MOTION MONDAY EVENING, THEIR ATTITUDE GENERALLY APPEARED TO E THAT DEFEAT PROBABLE UNLESS WE BENEFIT TO UNEXPECTED DEGREE FROM ABSENCES. ONE FAVORABLE REPORT RECEIVED AT DAY'S END WAS LEBANESE AMBASSADOR GHORRA'S STATEMENT IN CONFIDENCE TO ASEANS THAT LEBANON WOULD ABSTAIN ON PRIORITY DESPITE HINTS TO CONTRARY RECEIVED ON MONDAY.

2. IN CONTRAST TO EXPECTANT MOOD BEFORE MONDAY AFTERNOON'S DEBATE CANCELLED, PLENARY MEETING ON TUESDAY WAS SUBDUED, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE RUMORS OF INVITATION TO SIHANOUK HAD FADED AND BECAUSE HOSTILE COSPONSORS, WHO MAY WELL HAVE ANTICIPATED SURPRISE ACTION ON MONDAY BY OUR GROUP, APPARENTLY HAD BECOME MUCH LESS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS THREAT.

3. SEVENTEEN STATEMENTS WERE MADE DURING DAY TUESDAY. THAILAND LED OFF FOR FRIENDLY COSPONSORS WITH IMPRESSIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE RATIONALE FOR FRIENDLY DRAFT. THAI AMBASSADOR ANAND FORMALLY CONFIRMED REQUEST FOR PRIORITY THAT HAD LAST WEEK BEEN SUBMITTED IN WRITING. FIRST FOUR SPEAKERS, PRECEDING THAILAND, WERE ALGERIA, SENEGAL, DAHOMEY AND CHINA. COMMON THEMES WERE EMPHASIS ON IDENTIFICATION OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION AS "NON-ALIGNED" AND ATTACK ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LON NOL AND US INVOLVEMENT IN CAMBODIA. KHMER FONMIN KEUKY LIM GAVE LENGTHY EXPOSITION OF GKR'S DESIRE FOR PEACEFUL RECONCILIATION WITH "OTHER SIDE" AND ACTUAL LEGAL AND MILITARY SITUATION AS OPPOSED TO CLAIMS MADE BY GRUNK SUPPORTERS. THERE WERE NO DETECTABLE ORGANIZED WALK-OUTS FOR GKR STATEMENT, WHICH FOLLOWED SYRIA AS SECOND IN AFTERNOON, BUT BOUTEFLIKA GAVE OVER CHAIR TO ZAMBIAN VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFTERNOON SESSION. OTHER SPEAKERS DURING DAY WERE SINGAPORE, PARAGUAY, ALBANIA, JAPAN, YUGOSLAVIA, FIJI (AMB SIKIVOU MADE UNUSUALLY STRONG STATEMENT), MADAGASCAR, MALAYSIA, MONGOLIA AND LAOS. (STATEMENTS SUMMARIZED SEPTELS.)

4. WE DO NOT HAVE BOUTEFLIKA CONFIRMATION THAT DEBATE AND VOTING WILL END WEDNESDAY, BUT THIS REMAINS GENERAL EXPECTATION. WE ARE INSCRIBED TO SPEAK LAST ON WEDNESDAY MORNING. TWENTY-THREE OTHER DELEGATIONS ARE ALSO INSCRIBED
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TO SPEAK WEDNESDAY, ABOUT HALF OF THEM FRIENDLY COSPONSORS. WHILE WE AND ALLIES MAY DECIDE TO WITHDRAW SOME SPEAKERS TO SHORTEN DEBATE, WE MUST PLAN NOW FOR VOTING TO TAKE PLACE IN EVENING, PERHAPS LATE ENOUGH TO PRESENT SERIOUS PROBLEM OF RETAINING FRIENDLY VOTERS IN SEATS.

5. BAROODY BRIEFLY INFORMED THAI AMBASSADOR ANAND IN MORNING THAT HE WOULD HAVE AMENDMENTS, BUT TEXTS (REPORTED

SEPTELS) DID NOT SURFACE UNTIL PLENARY DEBATE ENDED TUESDAY EVENING. THESE TEXTS EXPECTED TO BE CIRCULATED WEDNESDAY MORNING AND TO BE INTRODUCED BY BAROODY, WHO IS INSCRIBED AS SIXTH SPEAKER. IN EARLY EVENING MEETING OF COSPONSORS IN WHICH WE PARTICIPATED (THIS WAS THIRD SUCH MEETING OF DAY), ALLIES AGREED TO GIVE INITIAL SYMPATHETIC HOLDING REACTION TO BAROODY AND TO DECIDE ON TACTICS FOR HANDLING AMENDMENTS AT MEETING JUST BEFORE PLENARY OPENS WEDNESDAY. ALTHOUGH NO DECISION WAS MADE ABOUT AMENDMENTS TUESDAY EVENING, SINCE PRIORITY IS IN SERIOUS JEOPARDY, ALLIES AGREED WE SHOULD EXPLORE MEANS OF EXPLOITING BAROODY'S EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN SUPPORT FOR PRIORITY AND TO WEAKEN SUPPORT FOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION IF PRIORITY EFFORT SHOULD FAIL. ALLIES GENERALLY EXPECT THAT BAROODY'S AMENDMENTS, SINCE THEY SEEM TO BE CONSISTENT WITH SPIRIT OF ASEAN DRAFT, WILL BE REJECTED BY HOSTILE COSPONSORS. HOWEVER, WE WERE UNABLE TO PROJECT WITH ANY CONFIDENCE PRECISE IMPACT ON VOTING SITUATION AND THUS DEFERRED DECISION.

6. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET EXAMINED ALL IMPLICATIONS OF AMENDMENTS, IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT BAROODY AMENDMENT, WHICH WOULD DELETE THIRD OPERATIVE PARA OF FRIENDLY RES, WOULD WEAKEN OUR CHANCES OF SUCCESSFULLY INSISTING, AGAINST HOSTILE PRESIDENT, THAT HOSTILE RES SHOULD NOT BE PUT TO A VOTE IF FRIENDLY RES IS FIRST ADOPTED, WITH AMENDMENTS.

7. IN LATE NIGHT TELEPHONE CALL TO USUN MISOFFS, GKR AMB CHHUT CHHOEUR MADE CLEAR THAT MOST IMPORTANT POINT OF HIS DISCUSSIONS TACTICS WITH PRIMIN LONG BORET NOW IS HOW TO HANDLE BAROODY AMENDMENTS. WE ALSO COVERED, IN THIS LATE EVENING CONVERSATION, MOOD OF COSPONSORS, AGENDA FOR MORNING MEETING WITH THEM, INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY ESTIMATES AND LAST-CONFIDENTIAL

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MINUTE LOBBYING NEEDS. WE ALSO TOUCHED ON PLANNING FOR COORDINATING USUN ACTIONS AND THOSE OF GKR PRINCIPALS IF HOSTILE RESOLUTION ADOPTED INTACT AND GKR UNSEATED. WE ASKED CHHUT TO ASSURE PRIME MINISTER THAT WE WOULD BE CERTAIN TO CONSULT THOROUGHLY WITH KHMER HERE THROUGHOUT DAY. CHHUT, AS DEPT AWARE, HAS HANDLED HIMSELF EXTREMELY WELL AT UN TO DATE AND, DESPITE OBVIOUS PRESSURES BUILDING THIS WEEK, HE APPEARS TO REMAIN REALISTIC, VIGOROUS AND COOL-HEADED.
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